



# **21st Century Challenges for Iowa's Learners**

A Balcony View  
ISCA Conference  
November 9, 2009

# Why We Need A Different Learning Experience for All Kids

- Global Realities
- Technology
- The Net Generation
- Iowa's Changing Economy
- Iowa Core Curriculum

# Global Realities

- The World Is Flat
- Global Competition
- Rise of India and China
- International Achievement Comparisons



# Technology

- Connectedness
- 24-7 World
- Speed
- Transparency/Vulnerability

# The Net Generation

- Motivated by Different Things
- Instant Gratification
- Born Digital
- Power Down/Power Up
- Avatars, Texting, Blogs, Nings, Tweets, etc., etc.

# Iowa's Changing Economy

- Different kind of agricultural base
- Caught in the Middle dilemma
- Outsourcing of manufacturing
- Changing demographics
- Out migrations



# Iowa Core Curriculum

- Basics....Plus
- 21st century skills
- Universal Constructs

# Kids' Needs

- Seven Survival Skills (Tony Wagner)
- Social-Emotional Needs
- Post-Secondary Expectations



# The Big Dilemma

- We don't know what high level learning looks like
- We must move to higher cognitive demand
- We expect too little

# Counselor's Role

- 21st century skills advocate
- Advocate for rigor, relevance and relationships
- Be a voice for the urgency of change
- Interview recent graduates
- Use your facilitation skills in the service of others

# SUMMIT GOALS

Identify current reality and context of school counseling

Develop action plan to better school counseling programs

Build leadership skills and greater sense of cohesiveness among participants

Encompass school counseling in the ICC



# 2009-2010 WORKGROUPS

- 1. Professional Development
- 2. Role Definition-"Counselor Quality
- 3. Shortages, Retention & Recruitment
- 4. Public Relations & Advocacy
- 5. School Counseling Integration
- 6. System Support
- 7. Sustainability and Resources